

SECRET

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FLD 401

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Military Information from the Schweinrich Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 September 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

1. [redacted] a new firing range of 500 x 3,000 meters for, [redacted] tanks on the Schweinrich-Lutterow-Zechlin road in Jagen (forest section) Nos 90, 91, 64, 57 and 48. One large and four small watch towers were on the northern border of Jagen No 90. Three low wooden buildings had been newly erected northeast of the towers, in the south corner of Jagen No 112. The border of the northern portion of the firing range was marked by posts, 4 meters high and at intervals of about 100 meters. The posts were marked by a white-bordered red triangle. Five soldiers were setting up a post. Four wooden targets, about 2 x 2 meters, were in the south portion of Jagen No 50, with the front toward north. Between 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., firing of tanks was heard. At about 1 p.m., 12 T-43 tanks and a column of 40 trucks, including some occupied by troops, were seen at the straight narrow path between Jagen Nos 9 and 10, 3 km northeast of Gadow. The column had come from Jagen No 10 and proceeded toward north. 1

2. At about 5 p.m. on 30 July, T-43 and T-34 tanks [redacted] passed through Gadow, coming from Neuruppin and proceeding toward Wittstock. They returned after about half an hour. 2

3. On 19 August, an exercise at a larger scale than the preceding ones was held at the Schweinrich troop training grounds. The troops came from the Fretzdorf and Gadow areas and marched toward Neu-Glienicke and from there toward Schweinrich. Numerous tanks, mortars, 37-mm AA guns and rocket launchers participated in the exercise. T-34 tanks [redacted] and JS tanks [redacted] were identified, as well as motor vehicles [redacted] Sedan [redacted] occupied by a senior officer, was also observed. 2

4. A radio station of a one-story temporary building and a braced mast was about 400 meters south of Fretzdorf. A second low wooden building was about 20 meters from the radio station.

1. [redacted] Comment. A tank firing range in this area is mentioned for the first time.

2. [redacted] Comment. The tanks observed with the exercises [redacted] belong to the 12th Gds Tank Div.

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